

Public Works

Mission Statement

The Public Works Department enhances the quality of life for city residents by operating and maintaining the city's street, wastewater, storm drain, and refuse systems and providing code enforcement in the most effective, efficient and responsible manner.

Major 2001/02 Priorities

- Implement same-day automated refuse collection throughout the City by August 2001 for both City and private collection areas.
- Complete implementation of the Arlington Avenue traffic signal interconnect by January 2002.
- Complete installation of 18 traffic signals for the School Safety Program by February 2002.
- Achieve full automation of the weed abatement program by spring of 2002.
- Increase proactive code enforcement by 10 percent.
- Slurry seal 30 miles of City streets.
- Clean all catch basins four times a year.
- Respond to all bee calls within 24 hours.
- Remove all graffiti within 48 hours of notification.
- Complete construction of Secondary System Upgrade to increase treatment and energy efficiency and capacity.
- Completed Solids Handling Upgrade to improve treatment efficiency and to comply with State and Federal regulations.
- Begin Master Plan process for Collection Interceptors to aid in the planning of future development by determining future upgrade or construction needs.
- Enlarge Wood Road Pump Station to increase capacity needed to handle the new development in the area.

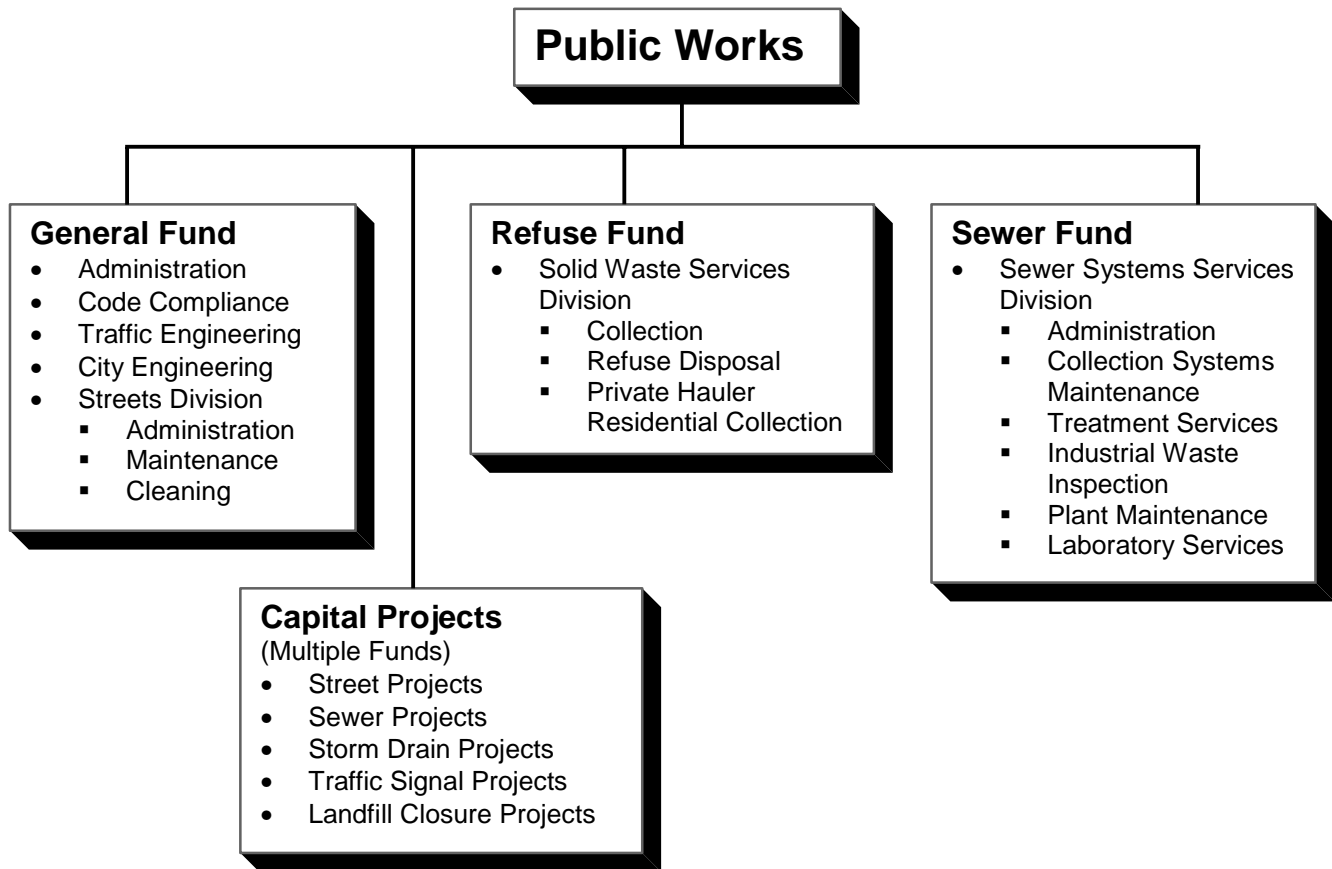
Description of the Service

The 300 employees of the Public Works Department maintain, operate, and improve the City's infrastructure including a 40 million gallon a day sewerage treatment plant, 1,000 miles of sewers, 1,100 miles of streets, 300 miles of storm drains and 290 traffic signals.

Infrastructure facilities are maintained and improved to provide adequate capacity for future growth as well as efficient cost effective service for existing customers. In addition, infrastructure improvements are constructed to beautify neighborhoods or improve safety and neighborhood livability. For example, this year's budget includes median construction projects and continued funding for the Jurupa Avenue Underpass. Construction of the underpass will eliminate the noise generated by trains passing through the existing at-grade crossing and will eliminate the existing potential for vehicular accidents.

The Department also provides solid waste collection, street maintenance, code enforcement, and construction inspection services. Approximately two thirds of all residential customers receive City solid waste services, with the remaining customers receiving service from a private waste hauler. All commercial customers are serviced by one of three private solid waste haulers. Monthly service costs have been reduced as a result of this combined private and public solid waste collection program. The Street Services Division actively addresses public health issues through street sweeping, storm drain cleaning, and vector control services. The Public Works Department has recently implemented a new proactive code enforcement program that has increased the level of compliance throughout the City with applicable health and municipal codes intended to improve neighborhood safety and livability. Code compliance issues include private sites in need of weed abatement, removal of abandoned vehicles, and elimination of buildings in dangerous disrepair. Public Works Department personnel also provide construction permitting, inspection, and plan checking services to assure compliance with City standards.

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Recent Accomplishments

- Completed construction and began operation of a 3.3 Megawatt cogeneration plant at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Completed construction of the Iowa Avenue Streetscape Project.
- Completed construction of the 14th Street widening and streetscape project.
- Completed the Auto Center Renovation Project.
- Slurry sealed over 30 miles of street.
- Increased proactive code enforcement by 20 percent.
- Implemented a program of targeting areas for proactive code enforcement.
- Implemented the once-a-week refuse collection program.
- Constructed new landscaped medians on Main Street north of the 60 Freeway.
- Curbside recycling program complied with the California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939).
- The wastewater treatment plant achieved full compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and federal biosolids disposal requirements.

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Programs and Program Goals

Administration Division

The Public Works Administration Division provides overall program management, planning, direction and fiscal management to six divisions within the department and to ensure that divisions achieve program goals.

FY 2001/02

Public Works Administrative Program: To provide policy direction/leadership/vision, administration and fiscal management to enable the Department to achieve program outcomes while complying with Federal, State and local requirements.

Public Education Program: To encourage residents to recycle and properly dispose of hazardous materials including oil, solvents, and large appliances by providing effective and informative educational materials.

Air Quality Compliance Program: To reduce air pollutants by reducing employee vehicles reporting to city worksites, promoting less pollutant forms of transportation, and complying with mandated requirements set by the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Storm Water Permit Program: To reduce storm water pollutant discharges in order to protect natural habitat, groundwater, surface water and recreation within rivers, streams and estuaries in the City design and construction of street, storm drain and sewer improvements to ensure the existing and future needs of the citizens are met.

Code Compliance Division

The Mission of the Code Compliance Division is to provide timely and cost effective enforcement of property maintenance issues within the City of Riverside for the revitalization of neighborhoods.

FY 2001/02

Zoning Enforcement Program: To provide enforcement of the City's Land Use and Zoning regulations to ensure compliance with the General Plan.

Dangerous Building Abatement: To remove or secure dangerous structures within the City of Riverside to protect public health and safety.

Weed Abatement: To provide for the removal of weed growth on private properties within the City of Riverside in order to minimize the risk from brush fires, improve neighborhood appearances, and eliminate health and safety hazards.

Nuisance Abatement: To provide for the elimination of nuisances such as inoperable vehicles, trash build-up, and similar conditions on private properties within the City of Riverside in order to reduce or eliminate blight.

Substandard Housing: To provide for the enforcement of the provisions of the Uniform Housing Code for the residents of Riverside in order to ensure minimum standards of habitability and to preserve the City's housing stock.

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Programs and Program Goals

City Engineering Division

The City Engineering Division will enhance and maintain the City's infrastructure by the efficient planning, design and construction of street, storm drain and sewer improvements to ensure the existing and future needs of the citizens are met.

FY 2001/02

Contract Administration: To administer City capital improvement infrastructure projects and provide inspections for both private development and City projects in an efficient and timely manner.

Land Development: To ensure private development projects are constructed in accordance with City standards by determining appropriate offsite improvements and reviewing construction plans in a timely and efficient manner.

Capital Improvement Design: To provide for the planning and design of street, storm drain and sewer improvements, including right-of-way acquisition and surveying/construction activities, so that the City's infrastructure will meet existing and future needs of the citizens of Riverside.

Traffic Engineering Division

The Traffic Engineering Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the City's traffic control system including roadway signing, striping and traffic signals for the citizens of Riverside and the general public to ensure public safety.

FY 2001/02

Traffic Investigation and Parking Control: To provide timely investigations to requests for information from citizens of Riverside and schedule installation of appropriate traffic control devices.

Traffic Engineering: To provide plan checking and plan preparation as well as traffic signal system timing plan development and maintenance for the development community and general public in order that they may proceed with the implementation of appropriate traffic control in new developments and travel the City's streets in a safe and efficient manner.

Traffic Signal Maintenance: To provide semi-annual preventative maintenance at all of the City's traffic signals, inspection of all traffic signal construction projects and repair of damaged traffic signal equipment for pedestrians and motorists in order that they may travel safely through the City's intersections.

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Programs and Program Goals

Street Services Division

The Street Services Division will provide well-maintained designated public rights-of-way for residents and the general public and to provide support services to other city departments in order to ensure safe and efficient movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic to city businesses, residences and recreational areas.

FY 2001/02

- Administration:** To provide policy direction, leadership, vision, administration and fiscal management to enable the Division to achieve program outcomes while complying with Federal, State, Local and other requirements.
- Street Maintenance:** To provide repaving and surface repairs on improved city rights-of-way, barricading, sandbagging and storm debris removal and to maintain all unimproved city rights-of-way, signs, and painting for the residents and general public, to improve the useful life of city streets and public safety under all conditions.
- Street Cleaning:** To provide street sweeping services and removal of illegally disposed debris on city rights-of way, for the residents and the general public in order to provide a cleaner, healthier and safer environment.
- Storm Drain:** To maintain both improved and unimproved drainage systems within city rights-of-way for the residents and the general public in order to facilitate a clean and healthy environment and to assist in the elimination of flooding conditions.
- Weed/Vector Control:** To provide for the control of weeds and mosquitoes and to perform visual inspections of bees within city rights-of-way in order to facilitate public health and safety.
- Graffiti:** To remove graffiti from all public and private property situated throughout the City of Riverside in order to discourage graffiti activity within the city and to improve the general appearance of the city.
- Miscellaneous Repairs and Services:** To maintain fences, guardrails, walls and other public facilities; to perform storm related and/or emergency activities; and to provide support services for other city departments as the needs arise to ensure the general welfare of the public and the protection of public and private property.

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Programs and Program Goals

Sewerage Division

The Sewerage Division will convey and treat wastewater in the most efficient manner meeting all regulatory requirements for the City of Riverside and the communities of Edgemont, Jurupa, and Rubidoux while protecting public health and the environment.

FY 2001/02

Administration & Support: To provide policy direction/leadership/vision, administration, and fiscal management to enable the Department to achieve program outcomes while complying with Federal, State, Local, and other requirements.

Collection System Maintenance: To provide sewer maintenance for City of Riverside customers in order to minimize the number of complaints, reduce the frequency of wastewater overflows, and respond to service requests in a timely manner while protecting public health, the environment, and meeting regulatory requirements.

Treatment Services: To provide for the efficient and effective utilization of personnel and resources for the treatment and recycling of the Community's wastewater in compliance with all Federal, State, and Local regulations/requirements.

Industrial Waste Inspection: To administer and implement the City's Pretreatment Program for the Sewerage Division and the City's industries in order that they will meet all NPDES permit requirements and other applicable Federal, State, and Local regulations/requirements.

Plant Maintenance: To provide equipment maintenance (planned, preventive, and emergency) for the Sewerage Division in order to optimize the useful life and operation of all Sewerage Division operational processes.

Laboratory Services: To provide accurate and timely laboratory analysis and information for the Sewerage Division in order that they may monitor and ensure compliance with all Federal, State, and Local regulation/requirements.

Solid Waste Division

The Solid Waste Division will efficiently provide solid waste collection for residential and commercial customers in order to maintain a clean and healthy environment by reducing, collecting and disposing of solid waste.

FY 2001/02

Refuse Collection: To provide and oversee efficient collection services for all customers in the most cost effective manner in order to maintain a clean and attractive community and reduce landfill disposals through recycling and green waste diversion efforts.